
Quality Assurance

Coexistence and mutual prosperity with customers based on quality underpinnings reinforced from lessons learned from improper quality practices

UBE made a new start as a chemicals company in 2022, undertaking quality management as an integrated Group under that new structure. We reinforced our quality underpinnings in view of previous quality inspection issues. In April 2022, we posted the UBE Group Approach to Recurrence Prevention Measures Relating to Improprieties in Quality Checks on our corporate website.

The UBE Group Quality Conference, which we first held in 2020 in response to inspection issues, gathered for a third year in 2022. Convened to push forward with quality management while remembering previous quality issues, this conference focused on the importance of upholding

quality commitments Groupwide. At the conference, we shared UBE Group's quality management initiatives and reaffirmed our determination not to forget the quality inspection issues.

As well as maintaining quality assurance activities to uphold our commitments and retain customer trust, we will redouble quality management efforts in transitioning to a specialty business to maximize our corporate value based on quality (customer satisfaction) and accelerate our endeavors so quality becomes a prime perceived strength of UBE.

All employees will stay united in focusing on quality, keeping our promises to customers and retaining their trust. We will meet customer expectations by intensively managing quality to generate new value, pursuing coexistence and mutual prosperity with customers.

Product Safety

UBE Group Product Safety (Chemical Substance Management) Structure

We established a management structure to ensure that all business units manage chemical substances properly. In view of the regional nature of chemical substance control laws and regulations, UBE (in Japan) oversees operations across Asia, while UBE Corporation Europe (Spain), our European manufacturing site, looks after Europe and North America. In Japan, we will step up training and leverage information and communications technology (ICT) to reinforce mechanisms to prevent reporting issues and remain compliant with such regulatory requirements as the Act on the Regulation of Manufacture and Evaluation of Chemical Substances and the Industrial Safety and Health Act. Export volumes are increasing in China, Taiwan, and South Korea, so we work closely with specialists at each local subsidiary to ensure compliance with revisions to national laws and regulations.

Complying with Chemical Substance Management Laws and Regulations

Product safety is part of quality, and we work to manage this in line with our quality management system. We use our SDS*1 production support system, as well as UBE-CHEMical Regulation Information Platform (U-CHRIP), a comprehensive database developed by UBE, for managing information about chemical substances, and other ICT to manage hazard information*2 of substances we use and the compliance

status of substances we handle to ensure that we adhere to laws and regulations. Each year, we improve U-CHRIP by identifying issues and functional shortfalls while enhancing functions to reflect revisions to national chemical control laws and regulations.

Supply Chain Communication

We supply local-language versions of SDSs and product labels for all products, complying with regulations in each country to ensure the safe use of chemical products throughout the life cycle of products, and maintain websites for key product SDSs. To realize green procurement*3, we are identifying hazardous chemical substances in our products and informing customers.

In fiscal 2022, we deployed a 24/7 emergency contact service worldwide to address transportation incidents and logistics safety issues.

Supporting Long-Term Technical Research to Assess Chemicals Risks

The Japan Chemical Industry Association has launched a Long-Range Research Initiative*4, a research grant program that the International Council of Chemical Associations started as a worldwide voluntary initiative. UBE has supported long-term research into the human health and environmental impacts of chemical substances by investing in the research starting from fiscal 2011.

Glossary

*1 Safety Data Sheet (SDS): Documentation containing hazard and toxicity information about chemical substances that manufacturers disclose when supplying chemical substances and products incorporating them

*2 Hazard information: Information on the inherent risks of chemical substances

*3 Green procurement: Corporate purchases of raw materials, parts, and manufacturing facilities with minimal environmental footprints

*4 An international initiative to provide long-term support for research into the human health and environmental impacts of chemical substances that the Japan Chemical Industry Association is promoting domestically